



Proclamation
Presented
In Recognition of
Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia Awareness Week

WHEREAS, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia is a devastating birth defect resulting from the failure of the diaphragm to fully form, allowing abdominal organs into the chest cavity and preventing lung growth; the defect is present in 1,600 babies each year and takes the lives of approximately half of them; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia occurs as often as Spina Bifida and Cystic Fibrosis but has little public awareness; the defect occurs in one in every 2,500 pregnancies, or in 500,000 babies worldwide since 2000; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia has impacted families who have had to endure the horrible grief associated with the loss of loved ones with Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia; individuals with the condition often endure multiple surgeries and possible medical complications that include heart defects and pulmonary complications, which may require respiratory and medicinal support for years; and

WHEREAS, Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia awareness will help bring about acceptance and support for those suffering with the condition, and will help advocate for urgently needed medical research and advances;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, NEIL ABERCROMBIE, Governor, and I, SHAN S. TSUTSUI, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim March 25 - 31, 2013, as

**"CONGENITAL DIAPHRAGMATIC HERNIA
AWARENESS WEEK"**

in Hawai'i and encourage the people of the Aloha State to recognize and support families facing Congenital Diaphragmatic Hernia and learn more by going to the website at <http://www.SaveTheCherubs.org>.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this fifteenth of March, 2013.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE
Governor, State of Hawai'i



SHAN S. TSUTSUI
Lt. Governor, State of Hawai'i